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3 April 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, R & E

Subject: Request that Publication of the C.I.G. Weekly Summary Be Suspended Pending Completion of the Situation Report Series.

1. Attached hereto is a draft memorandum for the Director requesting that publication of the C.I.G. Weekly Summary be suspended pending completion of the Situation Report Series.

2. Considerations additional to those embodied in the draft memorandum are:

a. The indicated antipathy of the present Director and Chief of ICAPS toward the Weekly. There is no incentive to bear extraordinary burdens in the performance of an undesired service. If the service is desired at levels above them, we have had no evidence of it. There is no better way to find out than to suspend publication.

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25X1A b. The strain and burden on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in existing circumstances is intolerable and cannot be sustained indefinitely. For ten months we have been operating on a shoestring. The immediate prospect is for a deterioration rather than an improvement in the situation.

3. The Regional Branch Chiefs have received copies of the draft memorandum attached hereto. They admit the diffusion of effort inherent in the existing situation, but contend that the Weekly Summary should be given priority over the Situation Report Series. As you well know, that has been my contention also in discussions relating to ICAPS proposals. I still regard the Weekly Summary as essential to a proper current intelligence coverage and as potentially our most valuable routine contribution. The practical experience of the past month, however, convinces me that we cannot creditably sustain all of our existing commitments. I acknowledge the force of Mr. [REDACTED] argument that completion of the Situation Report Series as the plane of reference for

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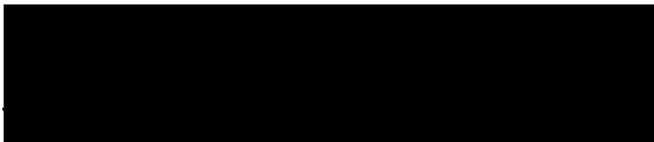
other reporting is a matter of logical priority. The compelling considerations, however, so far as I am concerned, are:

a. Appreciation that we have never been and are not soon likely to be properly manned to produce a Weekly Summary that truly conforms to our concept of the mission of such a weekly.

b. Conviction, on present showing, that it will be impossible for us to produce a reputable Weekly during the period for which suspension is requested.

4. I request that this matter be considered at your meeting with the Branch Chiefs and others on Friday, 4 April.

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LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE  
Chief, Intelligence Staff, ORE

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